

**Listing of the Claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A device for notching a book block spine formed with compressed signatures, the book block passing by the device along a conveying path for a perfect binder, the device comprising:

at a notching tool that rotates around a pivot, positioned approximately perpendicularly to the book block spine, the notching tool comprising:

a carrier, defining a circular cutting plane; and

at least two cutting teeth attached to and projecting from the front of the carrier, wherein the cutting teeth are ~~positioned on~~ arranged opposite each other on opposing sides of the carrier relative to the pivot and are oriented at an acute angle  $\beta$  to the circular cutting plane, the teeth cutting into the book block spine to produce arc-shaped notches along the spine of the book block.

Claim 2 (Original): The device according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the cutting teeth is positioned so as to point radially inward to a center of the carrier.

Claim 3 (Original): The device according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the cutting teeth is positioned so as to point radially outward from the center of the carrier.

Claim 4 (Withdrawn): The device according to claim 1, wherein the carrier for the notching tool is driven around a pivot that is arranged perpendicularly to the conveying path.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A book conveying and notching device for notching a book block spine formed with compressed signatures, the device comprising:

a transporter for passing the book block spine along a conveying path for a perfect binder; and

a notching tool that rotates around a pivot, positioned approximately perpendicularly to the book block spine as it passes along the conveying path, the notching tool comprising:

a carrier, defining a circular cutting plane; and  
at least two cutting teeth attached to and projecting from the front of the carrier, wherein the cutting teeth are ~~positioned on~~ arranged opposite each other on opposing sides of the carrier relative to the pivot and are oriented at an acute angle  $\beta$  to the circular cutting plane, the teeth cutting into the book block spine to produce arc-shaped notches along the spine of the book block wherein the carrier for the notching tool is driven around a pivot that is arranged at an angle to the conveying path.

Claim 6 (Original): The device according to claim 1, wherein the carrier comprises recesses inside which the cutting teeth are mounted.

Claim 7 (Withdrawn): The device according to claim 1, wherein the carrier has a truncated cone shape and the cutting teeth are attached along a surface line of the truncated cone.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): The device according to claim 1, wherein the cutting teeth are attached to the carrier such that the teeth project with different lengths.

Claim 9 (Original): The device according to claim 1, wherein the carrier is disc-shaped.